



# Bhakti

Radha Madhav Society



www.RadhaMadhavSociety.org

July - September 2010

## Happy Guru Poornima!

j aw%gE, cr8 kml bil har |  
Jāum guru, caraṇ-kamal balihār  
*I sacrifice my all on my Gurudev's lotus feet.*

ij n crnn kl =r8 ght mn,  
pavt ygl ivhar |  
Jin caranan kī śaraṇ gahat mana,  
pāvāt yugal bihār  
*By surrendering to Gurudev's lotus feet, the mind  
drinks the nectar of Radha and Krishna's sweet pastimes.*

ij n crnn ko )yan Ort mn,  
im4t j gt AṠdyar |  
Jin caranan ko dhyān dharat mana,  
miṭāt jagat aṇdhiyār  
*By meditating on His lotus feet  
the darkness of ignorance is removed from the mind.*

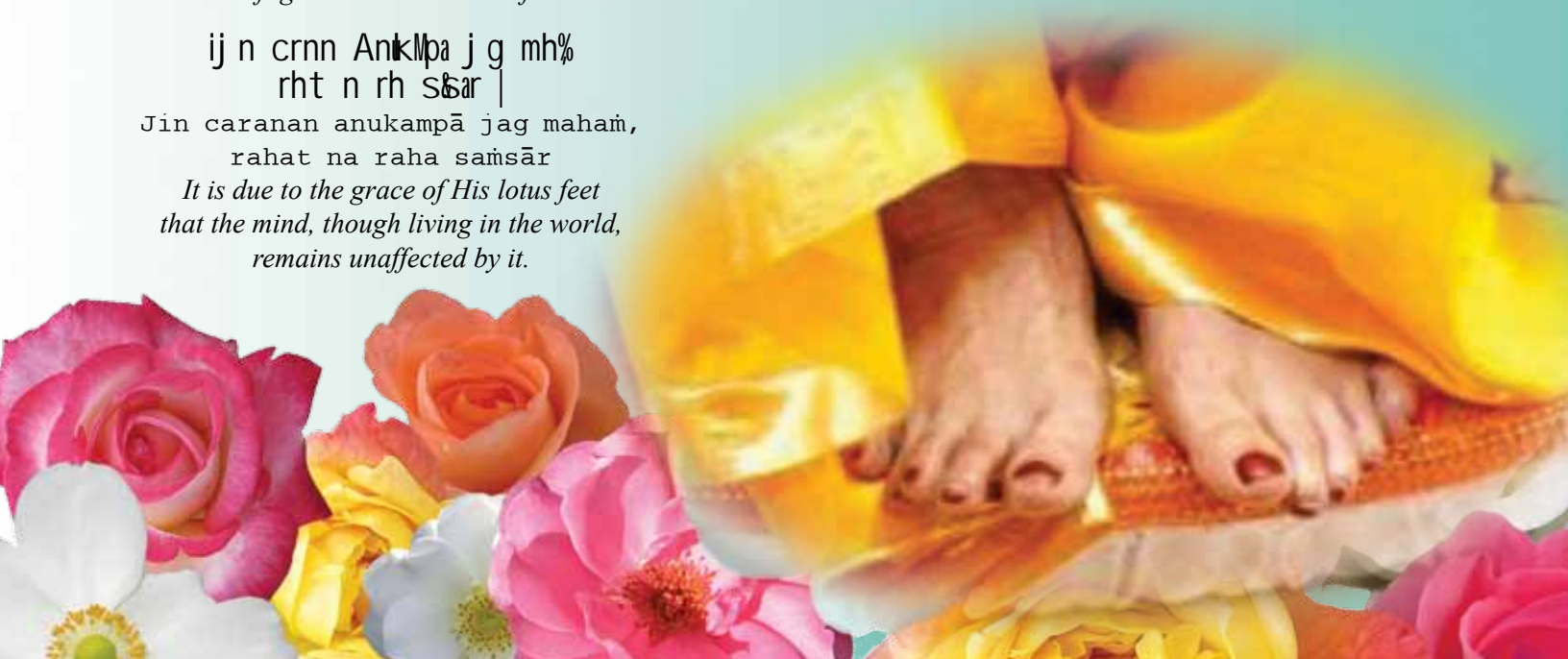
ij n crnn AnkMpa j g mh%  
rht n rh s̄sar |  
Jin caranan anukampā jag maham,  
rahat na raha saṁsār  
*It is due to the grace of His lotus feet  
that the mind, though living in the world,  
remains unaffected by it.*

ij n crnn rj Aaṅj cracr,  
di` t nNdkmar |  
Jin caranan raj āmji carācar,  
dīkhat Nandkumār

*By reverently applying the dust of His lotus feet to the eyes,  
one is blessed with the darshan of Lord Krishna.*

ydip 'kpal ū -eḷ nih&hir gE,  
tdip gEih&Aa-ar ||  
Yadapi 'Kṛpālu' bhed nahim hari guru,  
tadapi guruhiṁ ābhār  
*Says Shri 'Kripalu', "Although there is no difference between  
God and Guru, yet one is primarily indebted to one's Guru."*

Prem Ras Madira, Sadguru Madhuri  
Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj



### Inside:

Guru Poornima .....	1	Calendar .....	3	Courtyard Memories .....	4	Resources .....	7
Radha Madhav Society News ...	2	Radha Govind Geet ...	3	Obstacles on the Path of Devotion ...	5	Knowledge for Seekers ...	8
Q & A with Didi Ji .....	3	Think! .....	4	Kids' Corner .....	6		



# Radha Madhav Society News



## Didi Ji's Talks at the Vedanta Ashram Society in Halifax, Nova Scotia

### Saturday, April 17

Didi Ji's lecture commenced on Saturday evening at the Vedanta Ashram Society. Based on the knowledge of the eternal Vedas and the Vedic Scriptures, the lecture imparted a deeper understanding of the soul and how the mind becomes the cause of bondage as well as the means to attain liberation. The discourse was delivered in both Hindi and English.

### Sunday, April 18

Didi Ji enlightened the listeners on the topic of Buddhi (the Intellect) and how the mind is controlled by the Intellect. A detailed explanation of the five maladies of the Intellect: Love, hatred, extreme fear of death, ignorance and pride, was given by Didi Ji. It was highlighted that to rectify the faulty intellect it is essential to surrender it to the divine Guru.

### Tuesday, April 20

In the final session, Didi Ji explained the three aspects of God and detailed the practice of bringing God into the mind through Karm Yog and Karm Sanyas sadhana. Didi Ji concluded the final session with a guided meditation on Shri Krishna, which was highly appreciated by all.

All the lectures were followed by Q&A session and preceded by sweet chanting of devotional songs. Devotees were mesmerized by the beauty of the words and melodies by Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj.

Didi Ji conducted three house satsangs in addition to the temple programs, which were a mixture of discourse, chanting and Q&A sessions. In the final house satsang, Didi Ji introduced everyone to the divinity of Shri Maharaj Ji through a detailed talk on His life, and later by showing a subtitled lecture on DVD.



## Didi Ji's Wisconsin lectures

Siddheshvari Devi Ji recently concluded a 10 day tour of Wisconsin, USA. During her tour, she gave a discourse on the "Importance of Faith" at the Hindu Temple of Wisconsin. The discourse was very well attended by people not only from Wisconsin, but also from Madison and Chicago. The Hindu Temple of Wisconsin has requested Didi Ji to return soon and enlighten seekers with a series of discourses on a spiritual topic of her choice.

On other days, Didi Ji held satsangs at the houses of various devotees. Her melodious keertans, enlightening discourses, meditation sessions and practical answers to spiritual questions left the devotees asking for more. We are all eagerly awaiting her next visit.



## Q & A with Didi Ji

**Q** *I'm in my early twenties and did not get my college degree due to being discouraged by bad grades in college. I started working full-time and haven't gone back to finish my studies. My parents have been telling me it's the right time for me to get married now.*

*Should I go with what my parents want for me or should I take my time? Some days I'm happy, and other days I'm sad beyond words. What should I do to be able to think wisely and be at peace with whatever comes my way?*

**A** It would do you a lot of good to return to college and get a degree. You need it to boost your morale and self-confidence. Choose an area of study which will get you a good job, and work hard at it. No matter what it is that you choose, you will do well if you are committed to succeeding. If you think you will fail, you will. If you think you will succeed, you will. It would be best for you to get the degree, get a better job and then get married if you want.

You are young, and have your whole life ahead of you. At present it doesn't make sense for you to get married, simply because you don't feel you are ready for marriage yet. But when you go back to your studies, don't keep changing your mind. Just stick to one area and study diligently. At the same time, always leave a little time for yourself everyday in which to think of God. This will strengthen and fortify you.



## Calendar

July 15th - 20th	Youth Camp in Atlanta
July 25th	Guru Pournima
July 26th - 31st	Youth Camp in Richmond
August 9th - 14th	Youth Camp in Toronto
August 24th	Raksha Bandhan
September 1st	Janmashtami
September 15th	Radhashtami



## Radha Govind Geet

Radha Govind Geet is a lyrical body of work by Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj. It is comprised of 11,111 couplets, each one being the source of deep knowledge and sweet nectar at the same time. The following *doha* (couplet) is an example, with the explanation being rendered by Shri Maharaj Ji.

j g kamna im4e n goivNd raOe |  
j g kamna ko hir kamna bna de ||

*Desire for the world cannot be destroyed;  
therefore divert all worldly desires towards the Supreme.*

All the pain and suffering in life stems only from one source – desire. Worldly desires are of five types – forms, sounds, smells, tastes and touch. These five desires are torturing us day and night. The enlightened ones explain that by ridding our mind of desires, we will become peaceful.

In the waking state you see, hear, taste, touch and smell many material objects. But still the happiness of sound sleep is much bigger than all other happiness. After rousing from deep sleep - a state in which you do not dream - you feel rested and peaceful.

You actually do not get any happiness; what you experience is the lack of sorrows, which you confuse with true happiness.

God provides the happiness of deep sleep free of charge. Even millionaires and billionaires cannot get this happiness from their great wealth. A tycoon may be living in a multimillion dollar mansion and sleeping on a hundred thousand dollar bed, but he is also frustrated by worldly desires.

We have received many worldly pleasures during our lifetime. Still dissatisfied, we are continuously entertaining ever new desires. As long as material desires are intact, even the king of heaven, Indra will remain unhappy. If a desire is born in the mind, it will either be fulfilled or not. If it is fulfilled, we will desire more. If it is not fulfilled, we will become angry and burn inside.

We have become attached to the material world by repeatedly thinking about the world to be a source of happiness. Likewise, if we think about the fact that God is the source of bliss, we will become attached to God. All our desires will turn towards Him. In the world we notice that a man leaves his wife for the maid. The mind diverts itself towards the direction in which it perceives happiness. Once the mind determines that happiness is only in God, it will automatically divert all desires towards God.

# Think!

One year has passed since Guru Poornima 2009. Has your mind accepted God and Guru more than last year? If not, it means that mistakes have been made due to carelessness. Realize your mistakes and rectify them. Otherwise, sins will continue to pile up and the human body will be snatched away before you know it. Consequently, you will be born in lower forms of life, such as a dog, a cat or a donkey. At that time you will suffer terribly and think to yourself, "I had a human body, I was blessed with the association of a Guru and He taught me what to do. But I lost the rare opportunity due to the pride of my puny intellect." Our intellect has caused us to wander in 8.4 million species since time immemorial.

An illiterate villager hires a lawyer and acquires partial knowledge of the law. The lawyer instructs him to say specific things in court and not to say anything additional. The illiterate man learns what he has been taught by the lawyer, repeats the same in court and wins the case. If he uses his own intellect and includes even one sentence based on his lack of legal knowledge, he may lose the case.

Just like the villager surrenders his mind to the lawyer and follows his instructions till the end to win the case, similarly, we should also surrender the mind completely to

the Guru and follow His instructions till the end. Upon doing so, we too will win the case against maya and achieve God realization. We must not argue or find fault with the Guru's instructions.

A doctor orders the patient to consume only two drops of the medicine per day. No patient has ever argued with the doctor in saying that two drops is too little and that he will consume the entire contents of the bottle. No, the patient surrenders his intellect to the doctor and does exactly as he is told.

When a child learns the alphabet, he does not argue with the teacher about why 'A' is shaped the way it is, and why it sounds the way it does. No. The child surrenders his intellect to the teacher and accepts what he is told.

The Vedas tell us - Have faith in the words of God and Guru. Surrender your intellect to Them. Your intellect is under the control of the three qualities of Maya and as such, you cannot understand the depth of Their instructions.

We have full faith in the world but when it comes to God and Guru, we are full of doubts. This is our ignorance. Think about this.



## Courtyard Memories

The Aangan (Courtyard) in Mangarh was the place where Maharaj Ji would sit at leisure at different times during the day, surrounded by devotees. The sweetest memories I have are those created during the evening sessions. Everyone present secretly wanted time to stand still, dreading the moment when Maharaj Ji would say, "Acchha Sahib..." before retiring for the night.

The courtyard is still there, and Shri Maharaj Ji still sits there surrounded by devotees, but my mind runs back to the old aangan with the bougainvillea flowers and the iron gate, relishing memories of days past.

Shri Maharaj Ji was sitting in the Aangan. It was either the afternoon or the evening time. A devotee was telling Maharaj Ji about one of the preaching disciples who was giving lectures in Agra. It seems that the sound system was not working well during the lecture presentation, which caused the speaker to become upset. When Shri Maharaj Ji heard this, He was displeased. He said, "Shukdev Paramhans recited the Bhagvatam to thousands of sages. Did He have a microphone?"

To this day, if the sound system is not working well, I think back to that day in Mangarh and smile to myself.

# Roadblocks on the Path of Devotion

## Criticizing Others

Criticizing others is one of the most serious spiritual offences. Enlightened masters advise that we must remain neutral towards even those who commit sinful acts. Enmity or criticism hinders the aspirant's progress on the spiritual path. Keep in mind that everyone is faulty. How far can you go in criticizing others? There is no end. Before attaining God realization, everyone, including you, is full of faults. How amazing it is that a sinner calls another sinner, a sinner! Even Saints have accepted that they are sinners! Why can you not accept the fact? If you did, you would see the whole world with favorable eyes and be able to uplift your spirituality. Why don't you accept the fact that you are full of vices?

## Criticism of Saints

Never criticize God and His Saints, and never listen to those who criticize God and Godly Saints. Doing so will surely lead to your downfall. People generally take great pleasure in listening to criticism of saintly souls. We must reflect - who is faulty? The person who is speaking ill about the Saint or the Saint himself? Listening to a Saint being criticized is the most serious offence of all. Committing this offence has hindered our progress on the path of devotion. We should be extremely careful not to listen to criticism. A sin against God can be forgiven by the Guru, but a sin against the Guru is not forgiven even by God.

Hari Guru Dono Ur  
Govind Rādhe

Nit raha yaha jñān  
buddhi mem biṭhā de

God and Guru live in our heart all the time. God lives in our heart; there is no doubt about this. And if we surrender ourselves to a Saint, He too lives in our heart to keep an eye on us. This knowledge should be drilled in the mind through

daily practice. There are two benefits to be reaped from this practice. First of all, it will increase our love for God and Guru. Secondly, it will save us from committing offences. Every time we think a sinful thought, we will be concerned, "Oh! My Guru is watching me. I should be careful; otherwise He will not grace me."

Our mind is extremely impure due to sinful thoughts. There are many sins that we do not commit physically. However, we are fearless when thinking sinful thoughts. We fear what people think of us, so we do not commit sins physically. Due to the misconception that no one can read our sinful



thoughts, we constantly engage in thinking bad thoughts. Take a paper and pen and write down all your thoughts throughout the day. You will realize all the greed, anger, jealousy and hatred you have in your thoughts. Let's say you see an acquaintance approaching you. You think to yourself, "Look, there is the scoundrel!" But when he comes closer, you say to him, "Come on in. It has been such a long time since we met. How are you?" Your thoughts are

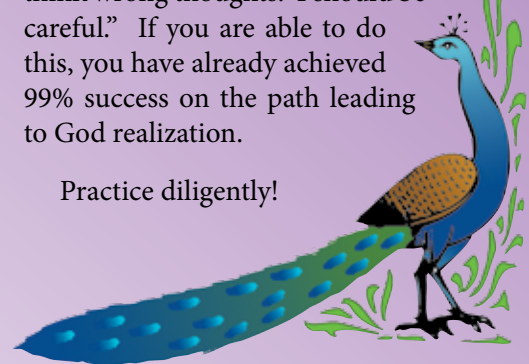
contrary to your actions.

God notes your thoughts. This is why Hanuman Ji and Arjun are not considered sinners in the eyes of God. These Saints committed multiple murders in front of everyone else but their mind was constantly on God. Therefore, they did not have to face the consequences of committing murders.

The actions of the mind are actual actions. Always keep this important point in mind. Sin, devotion and detachment, all are related to the mind. There are many who commit sins at night and pretend to be saintly during daytime. That is not considered devotion. So, reflect over and over again that God and Guru are keeping a note of all your thoughts. With constant practice, your mind will slowly accept this fact. The Vedas are saying in a trumpet voice that God is everywhere and inside every soul. Then why do you hesitate to believe this? You always realize your own self. Similarly, you should try to realize God and Guru in your heart. This will purify your heart.

First, practice thinking every hour: He is in my heart. With practice you will realize this at all times. For instance, you breathe in and out without thinking. How do you manage this? You have practiced over many lifetimes, so now it comes naturally to you. Similarly, practice realizing that He is in your heart all the time. Then you will hesitate before you think any sinful thoughts. Think: "I should be careful. He is noting my thoughts. He will not have mercy on me if I think wrong thoughts. I should be careful." If you are able to do this, you have already achieved 99% success on the path leading to God realization.

Practice diligently!



# KIDS' CORNER

## The Saint and the Cowherd

A Saint was coming down a mountain and saw a cowherd sitting under a tree, murmuring softly. He was saying, "My sweet Lord! I love you very much; please come and visit me. I will feed you the milk of my cows. You must be tired of walking around the universe; I will press your feet. Your shoes must be worn out because of all the walking you do; I will mend them for you." The Saint stood stupefied, listening to what the cowherd was saying. He said, "Who are you? You have committed a great sin by talking like this to God. Will God's shoes ever be worn out? Will God's feet ever ache due to walking? You have spoken wrongly to God. You have insulted Him!" The cowherd was simple hearted and became afraid after hearing the Saint's harsh words. He said, "O Saint, you are right. I have sinned. Please tell me how I can repent for this sin."

"There is no repentance for a sin of such proportions," replied the Saint. Hearing these words, the cowherd fainted with sorrow. Suddenly, there was a voice from the heavens, "O Saint, you are the sinner! I sent you to earth to teach humans to love Me and send them to Me. But you have done the opposite. I have taken note of the loving feelings the cowherd has for Me. I accept his feelings with extreme love and you have harmed his devotional sentiments. Go right now and ask for his forgiveness."

The Saint was taken aback. He ran to the cowherd and fell apologetically at his feet. "Please forgive me," said he. The cowherd replied, "I am not the same anymore. I cannot see anything other than God. I don't recognize anyone else but God. Who are you? Why are you asking for forgiveness?" The cowherd was now one with God.

### The Moral:

*Everyone has a unique relationship with God. What seems scandalous behavior to one may be devotion to another. God with countless names and infinite forms is pleased with a heart full of loving devotion.*

## Story Writing Contest

Kids, you may have heard the expression, "The pen is mightier than the sword." Let's see what you can do with a pen in your hand. If you are between the ages of 9 and 16, you are eligible to enter the Radha Madhav Society storywriting contest. The story must be handwritten. It must be an original and be no less than 500 words and no more than 700 words.

Your story must reach us by September 6th.

Topic: An original story involving Krishna, the all-attractive Lord. The judging categories are:

- Originality
- Suspense
- Humor
- Penmanship



Mail your story to:

Story Writing Contest  
Radha Madhav Society  
P.O. Box 208  
Jackson, MI 49204



A little boy was waiting for his mother to come out of the grocery store.

As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the post office is?"

The little boy replied, "Sure, just go straight down the street a couple of blocks and turn to your right."

The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new priest in town, and I'd like for you to come to the temple on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Krishna's abode, Golok."

The little boy replied with a chuckle, "Awww, come on; you don't even know the way to the post office."

## Radha Madhav Society Membership Form

P.O. Box 208, Jackson, MI 49204 USA secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org  
777 Bay St. P.O. Box 46029, Toronto, ON M5G2P6 Canada secretary.ca@radhamadhavsociety.org

Radha Madhav Society appreciates your support for its philanthropic and devotional activities throughout the world. To become a member, please fill out this form and mail it to Radha Madhav Society.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Life Membership (\$501)

- Free gift upon membership
- Gift shop discounts
- Discounts on family retreats and youth camps

### Yearly Membership (\$51)

- Free gift upon membership
- Gift shop discounts

Your donations help support humanitarian projects in North America and India, such as the building of charitable hospitals, a college for women, building of temples, and distribution of food and clothing.

## Shri Maharaj Ji

Watch the Divine discourses of Shri Maharaj Ji on TV ASIA:

Monday - Friday

9 am - 9:30 am EST

Saturday & Sunday

10 am - 10:30 am EST

Also available on AAJ TAK Channel seven days a week at 9 pm EST.



## Didi Ji's Lectures

Didi Ji conducts lecture programs and home satsangs throughout North America, the West Indies, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. To request Didi Ji's lectures and satsangs in your area, contact:

secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org

## Gift Shop

Radha Madhav Society offers literature as well as lectures, keertans and bhajans in CD and DVD formats. To order online, visit : [www.radhamadhavsociety.org](http://www.radhamadhavsociety.org)



## Geeta Lectures

In this series of seven talks, Siddheshvari Devi Ji has extracted essential knowledge from the Geeta. The first lesson learned is that one must not identify oneself with the physical and mortal body but with the divine and immortal soul.

Next, it is explained that every individual soul must surrender to God. Once the mind is surrendered and turns away from the material world, a divine guru is necessary who can teach the student how to surrender to Shri Krishna. Two methods of surrendering the mind are explained in detail: Karm Sanyas and Karm Yog. Didi Ji reveals the extremely deep concepts of the Geeta very lucidly and begins her talks with devotions rendered to Guru and God.

## Keep In Touch

To receive our newsletter BHAKTI and Didi Ji's weekly e-mail inspirational message, and to be notified of Didi Ji's programs in your area, join our mailing list by sending your full name, complete postal address, phone number(s) and e-mail address to:

secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org

## Guidance

You may direct your spiritual inquiries to Didi Ji by sending e-mail to:

s\_didi@radhamadhavsociety.org



**G**od, individual soul and maya are three eternal entities, with God governing the individual soul and maya.

Being a fraction of God who is the essence of happiness, the individual soul desires only happiness.

True happiness is unlimited and everlasting.

Being divine, the soul is not satisfied with the limited and temporary happiness of the material world.

The happiness and sorrow we experience in life do not arise from the world but from our belief that there is happiness and sorrow in the world.

The soul is divine, therefore its ultimate goal is the attainment of God, who is the essence of divine bliss.

*Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj*